

DESCRIPTION

CONTROL SYSTEM OF INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE

5 TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates to a control system of an internal combustion engine.

BACKGROUND ART

10 In recent years, studies have been conducted on constructing a model of the intake system of an internal combustion engine based on fluid dynamics etc. and using that model to calculate parameters to control the internal combustion engine. That is, for example, a throttle model, intake pipe model, intake valve model,
15 etc. have been constructed for the intake system of internal combustion engines, these models have been used to calculate the cylinder filling air amount etc. from the throttle valve opening degree, atmospheric pressure, atmospheric temperature, etc. and these have been used to
20 control internal combustion engines.

However, when controlling an internal combustion engine, in particular when using the above model to control an internal combustion engine, to calculate the parameters related to the control, sometimes the throttle
25 valve downstream side intake pipe pressure P_{mta} or cylinder intake air flow m_{cta} at the time of steady operation (or the cylinder air filling rate K_{lta} at the time of steady operation obtained calculated from that (that is, the ratio of mass of cylinder filling air with respect to the mass of the air of the total stroke capacity of the cylinder)) becomes necessary. For
30 example, Japanese Patent Publication (A) No. 2001-41095 discloses a method of calculating a throttle valve passage air flow based on the throttle valve downstream side intake pipe pressure, atmospheric pressure, etc. at
35 that time and the P_{mta} .

Further, the above throttle valve downstream side

intake pipe pressure P_{mta} or cylinder intake air flow m_{cta} at the time of steady operation has conventionally been found using a map. That is, for example, in the Japanese Patent Publication (A) No. 2001-41095, the P_{mta} is found from a map using the throttle valve opening degree and/or engine speed etc. as arguments.

However, when actually preparing such a map, a tremendous amount of time becomes necessary. That is, to prepare a map, it is necessary to actually measure the P_{mta} or m_{cta} while successively changing the arguments. This work becomes tremendous. Further, there is the concern that an increase in the necessary maps or arguments will increase the map searching operation and increase the control load.

DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION

The present invention was made in consideration of this problem and has as its object the provision of a control system of an internal combustion engine designed to find at least one of the throttle valve downstream side intake pipe pressure P_{mta} and cylinder intake air flow m_{cta} at the time of steady operation by a simpler method.

The present invention provides as a means for solving the above problem a control system of an internal combustion engine as described in the claims of the claim section.

In a first aspect of the present invention, there is provided a control system of an internal combustion engine provided with a throttle valve passage air flow calculation equation by which a throttle valve passage air flow is expressed as a function of a downstream side intake pipe pressure at the downstream side of a throttle valve and a cylinder intake air flow calculation equation by which a cylinder intake air flow is expressed as a function of the downstream side intake pipe pressure, the downstream side intake pipe pressure when the throttle valve passage air flow found from the throttle valve

passage air flow calculation equation and the cylinder intake air flow found from the cylinder intake air flow calculation equation match being calculated as the downstream side intake pipe pressure at the time of steady operation under the operating conditions at that time.

The downstream side intake pipe pressure at the time of steady operation had in the past been found using a map, but there were the problems that the manhours involved in mapmaking work was tremendous and the control load at the time of map searching was also large.

As opposed to this, in this aspect, the fact that at the time of steady operation, the throttle valve passage air flow and the cylinder intake air flow match is utilized to find by calculation the downstream side intake pipe pressure at the time of the steady operation. For this reason, according to the present embodiment, it is possible to more simply find the downstream side intake pipe pressure at the time of steady operation.

In a second aspect of the present invention, there is provided a control system of an internal combustion engine provided with a throttle valve passage air flow calculation equation by which a throttle valve passage air flow is expressed as a function of a downstream side intake pipe pressure at the downstream side of a throttle valve and a cylinder intake air flow calculation equation by which a cylinder intake air flow is expressed as a function of the downstream side intake pipe pressure, the cylinder intake air flow when the throttle valve passage air flow found from the throttle valve passage air flow calculation equation and the cylinder intake air flow found from the cylinder intake air flow calculation equation match being calculated as the cylinder intake air flow at the time of steady operation under the operating conditions at that time.

The cylinder intake air flow at the time of steady operation had in the past been found using a map. There

was the same problem when finding the above downstream side intake pipe pressure at the time of steady operation by a map.

5 As opposed to this, in this aspect, the fact that at the time of steady operation, the throttle valve passage air flow and the cylinder intake air flow match is utilized to find by calculation the cylinder intake air flow at the time of the steady operation. For this reason, according to the present embodiment, it is possible to more simply find the cylinder intake air flow at the time of steady operation.

10 In a third aspect of the present invention, the cylinder intake air flow when a throttle valve passage air flow found from the throttle valve passage air flow calculation equation and a cylinder intake air flow found from the cylinder intake air flow calculation equation match is calculated as the cylinder intake air flow at the time of steady operation under the operating conditions at that time.

20 According to the present embodiment, it is possible to more simply find the downstream side intake pipe pressure and/or cylinder intake air flow at the time of steady operation.

25 In a fourth aspect of the present invention, the throttle valve passage air flow calculation equation is expressed as the following equation (1) where m_t is a throttle valve passage air flow, μ is a flow coefficient at the throttle valve, A_t is a cross-sectional area of the opening of the throttle valve, P_a is an atmospheric pressure, T_a is an atmospheric temperature, R is a gas constant, P_m is a downstream side intake pipe pressure, and $\Phi(P_m/P_a)$ is a coefficient determined in accordance with the value of P_m/P_a , and the cylinder intake air flow calculation equation is expressed as the following equation (2) where m_c is the cylinder intake air flow and a and b are compliance parameters determined based on at least the engine speed:

$$m_t = \mu \cdot A_t \cdot \frac{P_a}{\sqrt{R \cdot T_a}} \cdot \Phi\left(\frac{P_m}{P_a}\right) \quad (1)$$

$$m_c = a \cdot P_m - b \quad (2)$$

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According to the present embodiment, relatively simple calculation may be used to accurately find the downstream side intake pipe pressure and/or cylinder intake air flow at the time of steady operation.

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In a fifth aspect of the invention, the internal combustion engine has an exhaust gas recirculation passage for making at least part of the exhaust gas discharged into the exhaust passage flow into the intake passage and an EGR control valve for adjusting the flow of the exhaust gas passing through the exhaust gas recirculation passage, the throttle valve passage air flow calculation equation is expressed as the following equation (3) wherein m_t is a throttle valve passage air flow, μ is a flow coefficient at the throttle valve, A_t is a cross-sectional area of the opening of the throttle valve, P_a is an atmospheric pressure, T_a is an atmospheric temperature, R is a gas constant, P_m is a downstream side intake pipe pressure, and $\Phi(P_m/P_a)$ is a coefficient determined in accordance with the value of P_m/P_a , and the cylinder intake air flow calculation equation is expressed as the following equation (4) where m_c is a cylinder intake air flow, and e and g are compliance parameters determined based on at least an engine speed and an opening degree of the EGR control valve,

$$m_t = \mu \cdot A_t \cdot \frac{P_a}{\sqrt{R \cdot T_a}} \cdot \Phi\left(\frac{P_m}{P_a}\right) \quad (3)$$

$$m_c = e \cdot P_m + g \quad (4)$$

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According to the present embodiment, even when performing exhaust gas recirculation, a relatively simple

calculation may be used to accurately find the downstream side intake pipe pressure and/or cylinder intake air flow at the time of steady operation.

5 In a sixth aspect of the invention, the internal combustion engine further has a variable valve timing mechanism for changing an operating timing of a valve provided in each cylinder and, based on the compliance parameters \underline{e} and \underline{g} when the operating timing is a first valve timing and the EGR control valve is at a first
10 opening degree, the compliance parameters \underline{e} and \underline{g} when the operating timing is the first valve timing and the EGR control valve is at a second opening degree, and the compliance parameters \underline{e} and \underline{g} when the operating timing is a second valve timing and the EGR control valve is at
15 a first opening degree, the compliance parameters \underline{e} and \underline{g} when the operating timing is the second valve timing and the EGR control valve is at the second opening degree are estimated.

20 According to the present embodiment, when exhaust gas recirculation is performed and there is a variable valve timing mechanism, it is possible to reduce the manhours of the mapmaking work for the compliance parameters \underline{e} and \underline{g} . Further, if reducing the number of stored maps, it is also possible to reduce the control
25 load at the time of map searching.

In a seventh aspect of the present invention, when the compliance parameters \underline{e} and \underline{g} when the operating timing is the second valve timing and the EGR control valve is at a first opening degree respectively take two
30 different values when the throttle valve downstream side intake pipe pressure is larger than and smaller than a first pressure and the compliance parameters \underline{e} and \underline{g} when the operating timing is the second valve timing and the EGR control valve is at the second opening degree are
35 estimated to take three or more different values in accordance with the throttle valve downstream side intake pipe pressure, based on the compliance parameters \underline{e} and \underline{g}

when the operating timing is a first valve timing and the EGR control valve is at a first opening degree, the compliance parameters \underline{e} and \underline{g} when the operating timing is the first valve timing and the EGR control valve is at a second opening degree, and the compliance parameters \underline{e} and \underline{g} when the operating timing is a second valve timing and the EGR control valve is at a first opening degree, approximated compliance parameters e_p and g_p designed to take two values differing when the throttle valve downstream side intake pipe pressure is larger and smaller than a first pressure are calculated and these are made the compliance parameters \underline{e} and \underline{g} when the operating timing is the second valve timing and the EGR control valve is at the second opening degree.

According to the present embodiment, the processing when finding the downstream side intake pipe pressure and/or cylinder intake air flow at the time of steady operation is simplified and the control load can be reduced.

In an eighth aspect of the invention, the case where the EGR control valve is at the first opening degree is the case where the EGR control valve is closed.

By using the case where the EGR control valve is closed as a standard, it is possible to more accurately estimate the compliance parameters \underline{e} and \underline{g} in the case where the operating timing is the second (that is, any) valve timing and the EGR control valve is at the second (that is, any) opening degree. Further, as a result, it is possible to more accurately find the downstream side intake pipe pressure and/or cylinder intake air flow at the time of steady operation.

In a ninth aspect of the invention, at a portion where the throttle valve passage air flow m_t and cylinder intake air flow m_c invert in magnitude, the throttle valve passage air flow calculation equation used is an approximation equation expressed by a linear equation of the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m .

In a 10th aspect of the invention, the approximation equation is made a linear equation expressing a line connecting two points on a curve expressed by the throttle valve passage air flow calculation equation and before and after the point where the throttle valve passage air flow m_t and cylinder intake air flow m_c invert in magnitude.

According to the ninth and 10th aspects, the calculation when finding the downstream side intake pipe pressure and/or cylinder intake air flow at the time of steady operation is simplified and the control load can be reduced.

In an 11th aspect of the invention, instead of the atmospheric pressure P_a , a throttle valve upstream side intake pipe pressure P_{ac} found considering at least a pressure loss of an air cleaner is used.

According to the present embodiment, it is possible to more accurately find the downstream side intake pipe pressure and/or cylinder intake air flow at the time of steady operation.

In a 12th aspect of the invention, a throttle valve upstream side intake pipe pressure P_{ac} found considering at least a pressure loss of an air cleaner is found based on the previously found throttle valve passage air flow, and the approximation equation is made a linear equation expressing a line connecting two points shown by coordinates obtained by multiplying P_{ac}/P_a with values of the downstream side intake pipe pressure and the throttle valve passage air flow showing coordinates of two points on a curve expressed by the throttle valve passage air flow calculation equation and before and after a point where a throttle valve passage air flow m_t and cylinder intake air flow m_c invert in magnitude.

According to the present embodiment, the calculation when finding the downstream side intake pipe pressure and/or cylinder intake air flow at the time of steady operation is simplified and the control load can be

reduced. Further, by considering the pressure loss of the air cleaner etc., it is possible to more accurately find the downstream side intake pipe pressure and/or cylinder intake air flow at the time of steady operation.

5 Below, the present invention will be understood more fully from the attached drawings and the description of the preferred embodiments of the present invention.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

10 FIG. 1 is a schematic view of an example of the case of applying a control system of an internal combustion engine of the present invention to a cylinder injection type spark ignition internal combustion engine.

FIG. 2 is a view of an intake air amount model.

15 FIG. 3 is a view of the relationship between the throttle valve opening degree and flow coefficient.

FIG. 4 is a view of a function $\Phi(P_m/P_a)$.

FIG. 5 is a view of the basic concept of a throttle model.

20 FIG. 6 is a view of the basic concept of an intake pipe model.

FIG. 7 is a view of the basic concept of an intake valve model.

FIG. 8 is a view of definitions of the cylinder filling air amount and cylinder intake air flow.

25 FIG. 9 is a view of the relationship of a downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m and throttle valve passage air flow m_t and cylinder intake air flow m_c and shows that the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m when the throttle valve passage air flow m_t and cylinder intake
30 air flow m_c become equal is the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_{mta} at the time of steady operation and that the cylinder intake air flow m_c at that time is the cylinder intake air flow m_{cta} at the time of steady operation.

35 FIG. 10 is an enlarged view of the vicinity of an intersecting point EP for a view similar to FIG. 9 and is a view to explain approximating a curve expressing the

throttle valve passage air flow mt by a line and approximating two lines expressing the cylinder intake air flow mc by a single line.

5 FIG. 11 is a schematic view of an example of the case of applying a control system of an internal combustion engine of the present invention to a cylinder injection type spark ignition internal combustion engine different from FIG. 1.

10 FIG. 12 is a view for explaining the method of utilizing compliance parameters \underline{e} and \underline{g} under predetermined conditions to estimate the compliance parameters \underline{e} and \underline{g} under any conditions.

15 FIG. 13 is also a view for explaining the method of utilizing compliance parameters \underline{e} and \underline{g} under predetermined conditions to estimate the compliance parameters \underline{e} and \underline{g} under any conditions.

20 FIG. 14 is a view for explaining the method of approximating a cylinder intake air flow mc_{11} expressed by three lines by an approximated cylinder intake air flow mc'_{11} expressed by two lines and shows the case where the predetermined pressure P_{m1} is larger than a predetermined pressure P_{m2} .

25 FIG. 15 is a view similar to FIG. 14 and shows the case where the predetermined pressure P_{m1} is smaller than a predetermined pressure P_{m2} .

BEST MODE FOR WORKING THE INVENTION

30 Below, embodiments of the present invention will be explained in detail with reference to the drawings. Note that in the figures, the same or similar elements are assigned common reference numerals.

35 FIG. 1 is a schematic view showing an example of the case of applying a control system of an internal combustion engine of the present invention to a cylinder injection type spark ignition internal combustion engine. Note that the present invention may also be applied to another spark ignition type internal combustion engine or compression ignition type internal combustion engine.

As shown in FIG. 1, an engine body 1 is provided with a cylinder block 2, pistons 3 reciprocating inside the cylinder block 2, and a cylinder head 4 fixed on the cylinder block 2. The pistons 3 and cylinder head 4 form combustion chambers 5 between them. The cylinder head 4 is provided with, for each cylinder, intake valves 6, intake ports 7, exhaust valves 8, and exhaust ports 9. Further, as shown in FIG. 1, spark plug 10 is provided at the center of the inside wall surface of the cylinder head 4, while fuel injector 11 is provided at the periphery of the inside wall surface of the cylinder head 4. Further, the top surface of each piston 3 is formed with a cavity 12 extending from below the fuel injector 11 to below the spark plug 10.

The intake ports 7 of each cylinder are connected through a downstream side intake pipe 13 to a surge tank 14, while the surge tank 14 is connected through an upstream side intake pipe 15 to an air cleaner 16. Inside the intake pipe 15, a throttle valve 18 driven by a step motor 17 is provided. On the other hand, the exhaust ports 9 of each cylinder are connected to the exhaust pipe 19, and this exhaust pipe 19 is connected to an exhaust purifier 20.

The electronic control unit (ECU) 31 is comprised of a digital computer provided with a RAM (random access memory) 33, ROM (read only memory) 34, CPU (microprocessor) 35, input port 36, and output port 37, connected with each other by a bidirectional bus 32. The intake pipe 13 is provided with an intake pipe pressure sensor 40 for detecting the pressure in the intake pipe. The intake pipe pressure sensor 40 generates an output voltage proportional to the intake pipe pressure. This output voltage is input through the corresponding AD converter 38 to the input port 36.

Further, a throttle valve opening degree sensor 43 for detecting the opening degree of the throttle valve 18, an atmospheric pressure sensor 44 for detecting the

pressure of the atmosphere around the internal combustion engine or the pressure of the air taken into the intake pipe 15 (intake pressure), and an atmospheric temperature sensor 45 for detecting the temperature of the atmosphere around the internal combustion engine or the temperature of the air taken into the intake pipe 15 (intake temperature) are provided. The output voltages of these sensors are input to an input port 36 through corresponding AD converters 38. Further, the accelerator pedal 46 is connected to a load sensor 47 generating an output voltage proportional to the amount of depression of an accelerator pedal 46, while the output voltage of the load sensor 47 is input to an input port 36 through the corresponding AD converter 38. A crank angle sensor 48 generates an output pulse each time for example the crankshaft rotates by 30 degrees. This output pulse is input to the input port 36. The CPU 35 uses the output pulse of this crank angle sensor 48 to calculate the engine speed. On the other hand, the output port 37 is connected through a corresponding drive circuit 39 to the spark plugs 10, fuel injectors 11, step motor 17, etc.

Note that, in recent years, control systems of internal combustion engines controlling internal combustion engines based on parameters calculated using the models of the intake systems of internal combustion engines constructed based on fluid dynamics, etc. have been studied. That is, for example, a throttle model, intake pipe model, intake valve model, etc. have been constructed for the intake systems of internal combustion engines, these models have been used to calculate the cylinder filling air amount etc. from the throttle valve opening degree, atmospheric pressure, atmospheric temperature, etc., and the internal combustion engine has been controlled based on this.

Further, in the present embodiment as well, in the configuration shown in FIG. 1, a model is used to control the internal combustion engine. That is, in the present

embodiment, usually, the intake air amount model M20 explained below is used for control. FIG. 2 is a view of the intake air amount model M20.

5 The intake air amount model M20, as shown in FIG. 2, is provided with a throttle model M21, intake pipe model M22, and intake valve model M23. The throttle model M21 uses as input the opening degree θ_t of the throttle valve detected by the throttle valve opening degree sensor (hereinafter referred to as the "throttle valve opening
10 degree"), the atmospheric pressure P_a around the internal combustion engine detected by an atmospheric pressure sensor, the atmospheric temperature T_a around the internal combustion engine detected by an atmospheric temperature sensor, and the pressure P_m in the intake
15 pipe at the downstream side from the throttle valve calculated in the later explained intake pipe model M22 (hereinafter referred to as the "downstream side intake pipe pressure"). By entering the values of these input parameters into the model equations of the later
20 explained throttle model M21, the flow of the air passing through the throttle valve per unit time (hereinafter referred to as the "throttle valve passage air flow m_t ") is calculated. The throttle valve passage air flow m_t calculated in the throttle model M21 is input to the
25 intake pipe model M22.

The intake pipe model M22 uses as input the throttle valve passage air flow m_t calculated in the throttle model M21 and the flow of air flowing into the combustion chamber per unit time explained in detail below
30 (hereinafter referred to as the "cylinder intake air flow m_c "). Note that the definition of the cylinder intake air flow m_c is described in detail in the intake valve model M23). By entering the values of these input parameters into the model equations of the later explained intake
35 pipe model M22, the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m and the temperature T_m in the intake pipe at the downstream side of the throttle valve (hereinafter

referred to as the "downstream side intake pipe temperature") are calculated. The downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m calculated at the intake pipe model M22 is input to the intake valve model M23 and throttle model M21.

The intake valve model M23 uses as input the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m calculated at the intake pipe model M22. By entering this value into the model equations of the later explained intake valve model M23, the cylinder intake air flow m_c is calculated. The calculated cylinder intake air flow m_c is converted to the cylinder filling air amount M_c . Based on this cylinder filling air amount M_c , the amount of fuel injection from the fuel injector is determined. Further, the cylinder intake air flow m_c calculated at the intake valve model M23 is input to the intake pipe model M22.

As will be understood from FIG. 2, in the intake air amount model M20, the value of the parameters calculated in a certain model are utilized as input values to another model, so in the intake air amount model M20 as a whole, the actually input values are the throttle valve opening degree θ_t , atmospheric pressure P_a , and atmospheric temperature T_a , that is, only three parameters. The cylinder filling air amount M_c is calculated from these three parameters.

Next, each of the models M21 to M23 of the intake air amount model M20 will be explained.

In the throttle model M21, the throttle valve passage air flow m_t (g/s) is calculated based on the following equation (5) from the atmospheric pressure P_a (kPa), atmospheric temperature T_a (K), downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m (kPa), and throttle valve opening degree θ_t . Here, the μ in equation (5) is the flow coefficient in the throttle valve, is a function of the throttle valve opening degree θ_t , and is determined from the map shown in FIG. 3. Further, A_t (m^2) shows the cross-

sectional area of the opening of the throttle valve (hereinafter referred to as "throttle opening area") and is a function of the throttle valve opening degree θ_t . Note that it is also possible to find $\mu \cdot A_t$ combining these flow coefficient μ and throttle opening area A_t from the throttle valve opening degree θ_t by a single map. Further, R is the gas constant.

$$m_t = \mu \cdot A_t \cdot \frac{P_a}{\sqrt{R \cdot T_a}} \cdot \Phi\left(\frac{P_m}{P_a}\right) \quad (5)$$

$\Phi(P_m/P_a)$ is a function of the following equation (6). The κ in this equation (6) is the specific heat ratio ($\kappa = C_p$ (constant pressure specific heat) / C_v (constant volume specific heat), made constant value). This function $\Phi(P_m/P_a)$ can be expressed by the graph as shown in FIG. 4, so this graph may be stored as a map in the ROM of the ECU and the value of $\Phi(P_m/P_a)$ may be found from the map instead of actual calculation using equation (6).

$$\Phi\left(\frac{P_m}{P_a}\right) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sqrt{\frac{\kappa}{2(\kappa+1)}}}{\sqrt{\left(\left(\frac{\kappa-1}{2\kappa}\right)\left(1-\frac{P_m}{P_a}\right) + \frac{P_m}{P_a}\right)\left(1-\frac{P_m}{P_a}\right)}} & \dots \frac{P_m}{P_a} \leq \frac{1}{\kappa+1} \\ \dots \frac{P_m}{P_a} > \frac{1}{\kappa+1} \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

Equation (5) and equation (6) of the throttle model M21 are obtained by making the pressure of the gas upstream of the throttle valve 18 the atmospheric pressure P_a , making the temperature of the gas upstream of the throttle valve 18 the atmospheric temperature T_a , making the pressure of the gas passing through the throttle valve 18 the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m , applying the Law of the Conservation of Mass, the Law of the Conservation of Energy, and the Law of Conservation of Motion to the model of the throttle valve 18 shown in FIG. 5, and utilizing the gas state equation, the definition of specific heat ratio, and

Mayer's formula.

In the intake pipe model M22, the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m (kPa) and downstream side intake pipe temperature T_m (K) are calculated from the throttle valve passage air flow m_t (g/s), cylinder intake air flow m_c (g/s), and atmospheric temperature T_a (K) based on the following equation (7) and equation (8). Note that V_m (m³) in equation (7) and equation (8) is a constant equal to the volume of the portion 13' of the intake pipe etc. from the throttle valve to the intake valve (hereinafter referred to as the "intake pipe part").

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{P_m}{T_m} \right) = \frac{R}{V_m} \cdot (m_t - m_c) \quad (7)$$

$$\frac{dP_m}{dt} = \kappa \cdot \frac{R}{V_m} \cdot (m_t \cdot T_a - m_c \cdot T_m) \quad (8)$$

Here, the intake pipe model M22 will be explained with reference to FIG. 6. If the total amount of gas of the intake pipe part 13' is M , the change over time of the total amount M of gas is equal to the difference between the flow of gas flowing into the intake pipe part 13', that is, the throttle valve passage air flow m_t , and the flow of gas flowing out from the intake pipe part 13', that is, the cylinder intake air flow m_c . From the Law of Conservation of Mass, the following equation (9) is obtained. From this equation (9) and the gas state equation ($P_m \cdot V_m = M \cdot R \cdot T_m$), equation (7) is obtained.

$$\frac{dM}{dt} = m_t - m_c \quad (9)$$

Further, the amount of change over time of the energy $M \cdot C_v \cdot T_m$ of the gas of the intake pipe part 13' is equal to the difference between the energy of the gas flowing into the intake pipe part 13' and the energy of the gas flowing out of the intake pipe part 13'. For this reason, if the temperature of the gas flowing into the

intake pipe part 13' is made the atmospheric temperature T_a and the temperature of the gas flowing out from the intake pipe part 13' is made the downstream side intake pipe temperature T_m , according to the Law of the Conservation of Energy, the following equation (10) is obtained. From this equation (10) and the gas state equation, equation (8) is obtained:

$$\frac{d(M \cdot C_v \cdot T_m)}{dt} = C_p \cdot m_t \cdot T_a - C_p \cdot m_c \cdot T_m \quad (10)$$

In the intake valve model M23, the cylinder intake air flow m_c is calculated from the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m based on the following equation (11). Note that a and b in equation (11) are compliance parameters determined based on at least the engine speed NE. A map is prepared in advance and the map is searched through in accordance with need to find these.

$$m_c = a \cdot P_m - b \quad (11)$$

The above-mentioned intake valve model M23 will be explained with reference to FIG. 7. In general, the amount of air filled in the combustion chamber 5 when the intake valve 6 is closed, that is, the cylinder filling air amount M_c , is determined when the intake valve 6 is closed (at the time the intake valve is closed) and is proportional to the pressure in the combustion chamber 5 at the time the intake valve is closed. Further, the pressure in the combustion chamber 5 at the time the intake valve is closed can be deemed equal to the pressure of the gas upstream of the intake valve, that is, the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m . Therefore, the cylinder filling air amount M_c can be approximated as being proportional to the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m .

Here, if making the average of the total amount of air flowing out from the intake pipe part 13' per unit time or the average of the amount of air taken in from the intake pipe part 13' to all combustion chambers 5 per

unit time over the intake stroke of one cylinder the cylinder intake air flow m_c (explained in detail below), since the cylinder filling air amount M_c is proportional to the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m , the
5 cylinder intake air flow m_c can also be considered proportional to the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m . From this, the equation (11) is obtained based on logic and experience. Note that the compliance parameter a in equation (11) is a proportional coefficient, while
10 the compliance parameter b is a value relating to the amount of burnt gas remaining in the combustion chamber 5 when the exhaust valve is closed (explained below).

Note that by having the compliance parameters a and b take two different values (for example, a_1 , b_1 and a_2 ,
15 b_2) when the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m is large and when it is small even if the engine speed etc. are the same, that is, by having the cylinder intake air flow m_c shown by two equations like equation (11) (that is, the linear equation of downstream side intake pipe
20 pressure P_m), it is learned that sometimes it is possible to find the cylinder intake air flow m_c more accurately. This is believed to be related to the fact that, and in particular when both the intake valves 6 and exhaust
25 valves 7 are open (that is, valve overlap) etc., the burnt gas flows back to the intake ports 7. That is, when there is valve overlap, when the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m is the predetermined pressure or more, the higher the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m , the much less the backflow of the burnt gas, so compared
30 with when the predetermined pressure or less, the value of a is made larger and the value of b is made smaller.

Here, the cylinder intake air flow m_c will be explained with reference to FIG. 8 for the case where the
35 internal combustion engine has four cylinders. Note that FIG. 8 shows on the abscissa the rotational angle of the crankshaft and the ordinate the amount of air actually flowing from the intake pipe part 13' to the combustion

chamber 5 per unit time. As shown in FIG. 8, in a four-cylinder internal combustion engine, the intake valves 6 opens in the order of for example the #1 cylinder, #3 cylinder, #4 cylinder, and #2 cylinder and air flows from the intake pipe part 13' to the combustion chamber 5 of each cylinder in accordance with the amount of opening of the intake valves 6 corresponding to each cylinder. The change in the flow of the air flowing from the intake pipe part 13' to the combustion chamber 5 of each cylinder is as shown by the broken line in FIG. 8, while the flow of air flowing from the intake pipe part 13' to the combustion chambers 5 of all cylinders is as shown by the solid line in FIG. 8. Further, for example, the cylinder filling air amount M_c to the #1 cylinder corresponds to the part shown by the hatching in FIG. 8.

As opposed to this, the average of the amount of air flowing from the intake pipe part 13' into the combustion chambers 5 of all cylinders shown by the solid line is the cylinder intake air flow m_c and is shown by the one-dot chain line in the figure. Further, the cylinder intake air flow m_c shown by the one-dot chain line multiplied with the time ΔT_{180° taken for the crankshaft to rotate 180° in the case of four cylinders (that is, in a four-stroke type internal combustion engine, the angle 720° which the crankshaft rotates in one cycle divided by the number of cylinders) becomes the cylinder filling air amount M_c . Therefore, by multiplying the cylinder intake air flow m_c calculated by the intake valve model M23 with ΔT_{180° , it is possible to calculate the cylinder filling air amount M_c ($M_c = m_c \cdot \Delta T_{180^\circ}$). Further, by dividing this cylinder filling air amount M_c by the mass of the air occupying a volume corresponding to the amount of exhaust per cylinder in the state of 1 atm and 25°C , it is possible to calculate the cylinder air filling rate K_l . Note that, as clear from the above explanation, it is believed that if multiplying the value b in equation (11)

with ΔT_{180° , the amount of burnt gas remaining in the combustion chamber 5, at the time the exhaust valve 8 is closed, is obtained.

Next, the case of using the intake air amount model M20 to actually calculate the cylinder filling air amount M_c will be explained. The cylinder filling air amount M_c is expressed by using the intake air amount model M20 to solve the equation (5), equation (7), equation (8), and equation (11). In this case, for processing at the ECU, it is necessary to make these equations discrete. If using the time t and calculation interval (discrete time) Δt to make equation (5), equation (7), equation (8), and equation (11) discrete, the following equation (12), equation (13), equation (14), and equation (15) are obtained. Note that, the downstream side intake pipe temperature $T_m(t+\Delta t)$ is calculated by equation (16) from $P_m/T_m(t+\Delta t)$ and $P_m(t+\Delta t)$ calculated by equation (13) and equation (14), respectively:

$$m_t(t) = \mu \cdot A_t(\theta t(t)) \cdot \frac{P_a}{\sqrt{R \cdot T_a}} \Phi\left(\frac{P_m(t)}{P_a}\right) \quad (12)$$

$$\frac{P_m}{T_m}(t+\Delta t) = \frac{P_m}{T_m}(t) + \Delta t \cdot \frac{R}{V_m} \cdot (m_t(t) - m_c(t)) \quad (13)$$

$$P_m(t+\Delta t) = P_m(t) + \Delta t \cdot \kappa \cdot \frac{R}{V_m} \cdot (m_t(t) \cdot T_a - m_c(t) \cdot T_m(t)) \quad (14)$$

$$m_c(t) = a \cdot P_m(t) - b \quad (15)$$

$$T_m(t+\Delta t) = \frac{P_m(t+\Delta t)}{P_m/T_m(t+\Delta t)} \quad (16)$$

In the intake air amount model M20 mounted in this way, the throttle valve passage air flow $m_t(t)$ at the time t calculated by equation (12) of the throttle model M21 and the cylinder intake air flow $m_c(t)$ at the time t calculated by equation (15) of the intake valve model M23 are entered in equation (13) and equation (14) of the intake pipe model M22. Due to this, the downstream side

intake pipe pressure $P_m(t+\Delta t)$ and the downstream side intake pipe temperature $T_m(t+\Delta t)$ at the time $t+\Delta t$ are calculated. Next, the calculated $P_m(t+\Delta t)$ are entered into equation (12) and equation (15) of the throttle model M21 and intake valve model M23. Due to this, the throttle valve passage air flow $m_t(t+\Delta t)$ and cylinder intake air flow $m_c(t+\Delta t)$ at the time $t+\Delta t$ are calculated. Further, by repeating this calculation, the cylinder intake air flow m_c at any timing t is calculated from the throttle valve opening degree θ_t , atmospheric pressure P_a , and atmospheric temperature T_a , and the calculated cylinder intake air flow m_c is multiplied with the time ΔT_{180° so as to calculate the cylinder filling air amount M_c at any timing t .

Note that, at the time of start of the internal combustion engine, that is, at the time $t=0$, the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m is made equal to the atmospheric pressure ($P_m(0)=P_a$), the downstream side intake pipe temperature T_m is made equal to the atmospheric temperature ($T_m(0)=T_a$), and the calculations in the models M21 to M23 are started.

Note that, in the intake air amount model M20, it is assumed that the atmospheric temperature T_a and atmospheric pressure P_a are constant, but it is also possible to make the values change along with time. For example, it is also possible to enter the value detected at the time t by an atmospheric temperature sensor for detecting the atmospheric temperature as the atmospheric temperature $T_a(t)$ and enter the value detected at the time t by an atmospheric pressure sensor for detecting the atmospheric pressure as the atmospheric pressure $P_a(t)$ into the equation (12) and equation (14).

However, when controlling an internal combustion engine, in particular when using a model to control an internal combustion engine, to calculate the parameters relating to control, sometimes the throttle valve

downstream side intake pipe pressure P_{mta} and/or cylinder intake air flow m_{cta} at the time of steady operation (or the cylinder air filling rate K_{lta} at the time of steady operation able to be calculated from this) is necessary.

5 Here, the value at the time of steady operation (P_{mta} , m_{cta} , etc.) means the finally taken value when steadily operating the internal combustion engine in a certain state, that is, the value considered as the convergence value. These values are used in control of an internal
10 combustion engine mainly for avoiding complicated calculation or reducing the amount of calculation so as to reduce the control load or for improving the precision of the parameters calculated. Further, these values may be made the ones found using maps in the past.

15 That is, for example, the practice is to prepare in advance a map for finding that value using the throttle valve opening degree, engine speed, or other indicator of the operating state as arguments, store it in the ROM, and search through the map based on the operating state
20 at that time to find the required value. However, to actually prepare such a map, a tremendous amount of time is required. That is, to prepare a map, it is necessary to actually measure the P_{mta} or m_{cta} while successively changing the arguments. The work becomes tremendous.
25 Further, there is the concern that an increase in the necessary maps or arguments will increase the map searching operation and increase the control load.

Therefore, in the control system of an internal combustion engine of the present embodiment, when the
30 P_{mta} and/or m_{cta} (or K_{lta}) is necessary, the method explained below is used to find it without using a map. Note that, as will be clear from the following explanation, this method utilizes the fact that at the time of steady operation, the throttle valve passage air flow m_t and cylinder intake air flow m_c match.
35

That is, the control system of an internal combustion engine of the present embodiment provides as

calculation equations of the throttle valve passage air flow m_t the following equation (17) and equation (18) (that is, the equation (5) and equation (6). Below, "equation (17) etc.")

5

$$m_t = \mu \cdot A_t \cdot \frac{P_a}{\sqrt{R \cdot T_a}} \cdot \Phi\left(\frac{P_m}{P_a}\right) \quad (17)$$

10

$$\Phi\left(\frac{P_m}{P_a}\right) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sqrt{\frac{\kappa}{2(\kappa+1)}}}{\sqrt{\left[\left(\frac{\kappa-1}{2\kappa}\right)\left(1-\frac{P_m}{P_a}\right) + \frac{P_m}{P_a}\right]\left(1-\frac{P_m}{P_a}\right)}} & \dots \frac{P_m}{P_a} \leq \frac{1}{\kappa+1} \\ \dots \frac{P_m}{P_a} > \frac{1}{\kappa+1} \end{cases} \quad (18)$$

15

Further, the control system of an internal combustion engine of the present embodiment provides as a calculation equation of the cylinder intake air flow m_c the following equation (19) (that is, the equation (11)):

$$m_c = a \cdot P_m - b \quad (19)$$

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Further, when the internal combustion engine is in steady operation, the throttle valve passage air flow m_t and the cylinder intake air flow m_c match. Therefore, if finding the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m when the throttle valve passage air flow m_t found from the equation (17) etc. and the cylinder intake air flow m_c found from the equation (19) match, the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_{mta} at the time of steady operation under the operating conditions at that time is found. Further, in the same way, by finding the cylinder intake air flow m_c when the throttle valve passage air flow m_t found from the equation (17) etc. and the cylinder intake air flow m_c found from the equation (19) match, it is possible to find the cylinder intake air flow m_{cta} at the time of steady operation under the operating conditions at that time (further, it is also possible to find the cylinder air filling rate K_{lta} at the time of steady operation from this value).

Further, finding the P_{mta} and m_{cta} in this way is

synonymous with finding the intersecting point EP between the curve mt expressed by the equation (17) etc. and the line mc expressed by the equation (19) as shown in FIG.

9. Here, when finding the intersecting point EP, if using

5 equation (17) expressing the curve mt as it is to try to find the intersecting point EP, the calculation becomes extremely complicated. Therefore, to simplify the

calculation, it is also possible to approximate the equation (17) etc. by a plurality of linear equations of the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m . That is, the curve mt is approximated by a plurality of lines.

Specifically, for example, it is also possible to calculate the throttle valve passage air flow mt based on the equation (17) etc. at every constant interval of the

15 downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m , find the points on the curve mt at constant intervals of the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m , and find the lines

connecting the adjoining two points as the approximated lines of the curve mt. Further, the linear equations

20 expressing these approximated lines become the approximated linear equations, of the equation (17) etc.

However, the approximation of the equation (17) etc. by linear equations is for easily finding the

25 intersecting point EP, so what is necessary here is an approximated linear equation of the equation (17) etc. in the vicinity of the intersecting point EP. Therefore, it

is also possible to find only this approximated linear equation. In this case, it is also possible to find in

30 advance the cylinder intake air flow mc based on the equation (19) every constant interval of the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m and find the point where the

throttle valve passage air flow mt and the cylinder intake air flow mc invert in magnitude so as to specify the position of the intersecting point EP.

35 More specifically, the approximated linear equation at the vicinity of the intersecting point EP (that is, the portion where the throttle valve passage air flow mt

and cylinder intake air flow m_c invert in magnitude), for example, is made the linear equation expressing the line n_{mt} connecting the two points t_j and t_k on the curve m_t expressed by the equation (17) etc. which are the points before and after the throttle valve passage air flow m_t and the cylinder intake air flow m_c invert in magnitude (see FIG. 10).

Note that in the region where the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m is the critical pressure P_c (that is, the pressure where even if the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m becomes that pressure or less, the throttle valve passage flow m_t does not increase further) or less, m_t becomes a constant value, so even if not using the above-mentioned approximation, the intersecting point EP can be easily found.

Further, when the compliance parameters a and b of equation (19) take two different values when the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m is large and when it is small (for example, a_1 , b_1 and a_2 , b_2), that is, when as shown in FIG. 9 the cylinder intake air flow m_c is shown by two lines connected by the connection point CP, when the connection point CP is in the vicinity of the intersecting point EP, by approximating the two lines by one line in the vicinity of the intersecting point EP, it is possible to simplify the calculations for finding the intersecting point EP and lighten the control load.

Specifically, for example, as shown in FIG. 10, the two lines showing the cylinder intake air flow m_c are approximated by one line. That is, in this case, the cylinder intake air flow m_c is shown by two equations expressed in the form of equation (19) (that is, two linear equations of downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m with different compliance parameters a and b), but these equations are approximated in the vicinity of the intersecting point EP by a linear equation expressing the line n_{mc} connecting the points c_j and c_k , one of which is on one of the two lines m_c expressed by the two equations

and which are at the positions sandwiching the connection point CP and the intersecting point EP.

In the example shown in FIG. 10, the curve m_t showing the throttle valve passage air flow m_t in the vicinity of the intersecting point EP is approximated by the line nmt , and the two lines expressing the cylinder intake air flow m_c are approximated by a single line nmc . Due to this, the intersecting point nEP sought becomes slightly different from the intersecting point EP, but this intersecting point nEP can be simply found by calculation finding the intersecting point of the two lines nmt and nmc . That is, according to this method, it is possible to simply find the approximated values of the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_{mta} and cylinder intake air flow m_{cta} at the time of steady operation.

However, in the above-mentioned equation (17) etc., the throttle valve passage air flow m_t is calculated using the intake pipe pressure at the upstream side of the throttle valve 18 (hereinafter referred to as the "upstream side intake pipe pressure") as the atmospheric pressure P_a . However, the actual upstream side intake pipe pressure usually becomes a pressure lower than atmospheric pressure during engine operation since there is pressure loss at the upstream side of the throttle valve in the engine intake system. In particular, in the configuration shown in FIG. 1, the air cleaner 16 is provided at the upstream-most part in the engine intake system, so to more precisely calculate the throttle valve passage air flow m_t , it is preferable to consider at least the pressure loss of the air cleaner 16.

Therefore, in a control system of an internal combustion engine of another embodiment of the present invention, to more accurately calculate the throttle valve passage air flow m_t , instead of the equation (17) etc., it is also possible to provide the following equation (20) and equation (21) (hereinafter referred to as "equation (20) etc.") as the equations for calculation

of the throttle valve passage air flow m_t . In equation (20) etc., at the portion in the equation (17) etc. where the atmospheric pressure P_a is used, the upstream side intake pipe pressure P_{ac} found considering at least the pressure loss of the air cleaner is used.

$$m_t = \mu \cdot A_t \cdot \frac{P_{ac}}{\sqrt{R \cdot T_a}} \cdot \Phi \left(\frac{P_m}{P_{ac}} \right) \quad (20)$$

$$\Phi \left(\frac{P_m}{P_{ac}} \right) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sqrt{\frac{\kappa}{2(\kappa+1)}}}{\sqrt{\left\{ \left(\frac{\kappa-1}{2\kappa} \right) \cdot \left(1 - \frac{P_m}{P_{ac}} \right) + \frac{P_m}{P_{ac}} \right\} \cdot \left(1 - \frac{P_m}{P_{ac}} \right)}}} & \dots \frac{P_m}{P_{ac}} \leq \frac{1}{\kappa+1} \\ \dots \frac{P_m}{P_{ac}} > \frac{1}{\kappa+1} \end{cases} \quad (21)$$

By using the equation (20) etc. as the calculation equation of the throttle valve passage air flow m_t , it is possible to more accurately find the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_{mta} and cylinder intake air flow m_{cta} at the time of steady operation by the above-mentioned method.

However, the upstream side intake pipe pressure P_{ac} may also be detected by providing a pressure sensor directly upstream of the throttle valve 18, but it is also possible to calculate it without using a pressure sensor. That is, the difference between the atmospheric pressure P_a and the upstream side intake pipe pressure P_{ac} can be expressed as in the following equation (22) by Bernoulli's theorem:

$$P_a - P_{ac} = \frac{1}{2} \rho v^2 = k \frac{G_a^2}{\rho} \quad (22)$$

Here, ρ is the atmospheric density, v is the velocity of the air passing through the air cleaner 16, G_a is the flow of the air passing through the air cleaner 16, and k is a proportional coefficient between v and G_a . If using the standard atmospheric density ρ_0 , the pressure correction coefficient ek_{pa} for converting the

standard atmospheric density ρ_0 to the current atmospheric density ρ , and the temperature correction coefficient ek_{tha} , equation (22) can be replaced by equation (23). Further, equation (23) can be replaced by equation (24) using the function $f(Ga)$ having just the flow Ga as a variable.

$$Pa - Pac = \frac{k}{\rho_0} \cdot Ga^2 \cdot \frac{1}{ek_{pa} \cdot ek_{tha}} \quad (23)$$

$$Pa - Pac = \frac{f(Ga)}{ek_{pa} \cdot ek_{tha}} \quad (24)$$

Equation (24) can be modified to equation (25) showing the upstream side intake pipe pressure Pac . In equation (25), the flow Ga can be detected by an air flow meter provided at the immediately downstream side of the air cleaner 16 when such an air flow meter is provided. Further, the pressure correction coefficient ek_{pa} can be set by the detected atmospheric pressure Pa , while the temperature correction coefficient ek_{tha} can be set by the detected atmospheric temperature Ta .

$$Pac = Pa - \frac{f(Ga)}{ek_{pa} \cdot ek_{tha}} \quad (25)$$

Further, in equation (25), the flow Ga of the air passing through the air cleaner 16 can be considered to be the throttle valve passage air flow mt . Equation (25) can be modified to equation (26):

$$Pac = Pa - \frac{f(mt)}{ek_{pa} \cdot ek_{tha}} \quad (26)$$

However, since the current upstream side intake pipe pressure Pac is necessary for calculating the current throttle valve passage air flow mt based on equation (20) etc., to calculate the current upstream side intake pipe pressure Pac based on equation (26), it is necessary to use as the throttle valve passage air flow mt , the previous throttle valve passage air flow mt , that is,

throttle valve passage air flow m_t of one discrete time before. In this respect, repeated calculation can improve the precision of the calculated upstream side intake pipe pressure P_{ac} , but to avoid an increase in control load,
5 it is also possible to use the upstream side intake pipe pressure P_{ac} found based on the previously found throttle valve passage air flow m_t as the current (present) upstream side intake pipe pressure P_{ac} .

Further, it is also possible to use the following
10 method to find the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_{mta} and the cylinder intake air flow m_{cta} at the time of steady operation when considering at least the pressure loss of the air cleaner 16. That is, with this method, in the above method of approximating the equation (17) etc.
15 at least in the vicinity of the intersecting point EP by a linear equation, finding the intersecting point between the approximated line shown by that approximated linear equation and the line expressed by the equation (19) (or its approximated line), and finding the downstream side
20 intake pipe pressure P_{mta} and cylinder intake air flow m_{cta} at the time of steady operation, the approximated linear equation of the equation (17) etc. (or approximated line expressed by the approximated linear equation) is corrected using the upstream side intake
25 pipe pressure P_{ac} .

That is, in the above method, the approximated line of the curve m_t expressed by the equation (17) etc., as shown in FIG. 10, was found as the line n_{mt} connecting the two points t_j and t_k on the curve m_t before and after
30 the throttle valve passage air flow m_t and cylinder intake air flow m_c invert in magnitude, but with this method, the values of the downstream side intake pipe pressure and throttle valve passage air flow showing the coordinates of the two points t_j and t_k are multiplied
35 with P_{ac}/P_a and the line connecting the two points shown by the new coordinates (approximated line after correction) is found (the linear equation expressing this

line becomes a corrected approximated linear equation).

Further, by finding the intersecting point between this approximated line after correction and the line expressed by the equation (19) (or its approximated line), the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_{mta} and cylinder intake air flow m_{cta} at the time of steady operation when considering at least the pressure loss of the air cleaner 16 are found.

Next, another embodiment of the present invention will be explained with reference to FIG. 11. FIG. 11 is a schematic view of an example of the case of applying a control system of an internal combustion engine of the present invention to a cylinder injection type spark ignition internal combustion engine different from FIG. 1. The configuration shown in FIG. 11 is basically the same as the configuration shown in FIG. 1. Explanations of common parts are in principle omitted.

Compared with the configuration shown in FIG. 1, the configuration shown in FIG. 11 differs in that the exhaust passage (exhaust port, exhaust pipe, etc.) and intake passage (intake port and intake pipe) are connected to each other through an exhaust gas recirculation passage (hereinafter referred to as "EGR passage") 21 and a control valve 22 for adjusting the flow of the exhaust gas passing through the exhaust gas recirculation passage 21 (hereinafter referred to as an "EGR control valve") is arranged in this exhaust gas recirculation passage 21. That is, in the present embodiment, sometimes exhaust gas recirculation for making part of the exhaust gas discharged to the exhaust passage flow into the intake passage (hereinafter referred to as "EGR") is performed.

Further, the configuration shown in FIG. 11 differs from the configuration shown in FIG. 1 in the point that it is provided with a variable valve timing mechanism 23 for changing the operating timing of the intake valves 6. Note that the EGR control valve 22 and variable valve

timing mechanism 23 are both controlled by the ECU 31.

Further, in the present embodiment as well, a model is constructed for the configuration shown in FIG. 11. In the same way as the case of the above-mentioned other
5 embodiment, the model is used for control of the internal combustion engine. Further, in the present embodiment as well, in the same way as the above-mentioned other embodiment, when the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_{mta} and/or cylinder intake air flow m_{cta} at the time of
10 steady operation (or the cylinder air filling rate K_{lta} at the time of steady operation able to be calculated from this) is necessary, the fact that the throttle valve passage air flow m_t and the cylinder intake air flow m_c match at the time of steady operation is utilized and
15 these values are found by calculation.

However, in the present embodiment, EGR is sometimes performed. Further, sometimes the operating timing of the intake valves 6 (hereinafter referred to as simply as "valve timing") is changed. For this reason, the control
20 system of an internal combustion engine of the present embodiment is provided with the following equation (27) instead of the equation (19) as the calculation equation of the cylinder intake air flow m_c used for calculation of the P_{mta} and/or m_{cta} .

That is, in the present embodiment, the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m when the throttle valve passage air flow m_t found from the equation (17) etc. and cylinder intake air flow m_c found from the following
equation (27) match is found as the P_{mta} , and the
30 cylinder intake air flow m_c at that time is found as the m_{cta} . Alternatively, when considering at least the pressure loss due to the air cleaner 16, the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m when the throttle valve passage air flow m_t found from the equation (20) etc. and
35 the cylinder intake air flow m_c found from the following equation (27) match is found as the P_{mta} , and the cylinder intake air flow m_c at that time is found as the

mcta.

$$mc = e \cdot P_m + g \quad (27)$$

Equation (27) is an equation obtained since even if EGR is performed and/or the valve timing is changed, the cylinder intake air flow mc changes substantially linearly based on the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m . Here, e and g are compliance parameters different from the compliance parameters a and b in equation (19) (or equation (11)), that is, are compliance parameters determined based on at least the engine speed NE, EGR control valve opening degree STP, and valve timing VT. Further, by making the compliance parameters e and g take different values for each predetermined range of the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m even if the engine speed NE, EGR control valve opening degree STP, valve timing VT, or other operating conditions are the same, that is, by expressing the cylinder intake air flow mc by a plurality of equations like the equation (27) (that is, linear equation of downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m), it is learned that sometimes the cylinder intake air flow mc can be found more accurately.

The compliance parameters e and g may be found by preparing in advance a map using the engine speed NE, EGR control valve opening degree STP, and valve timing VT as arguments and searching through the map based on the operating conditions at that time in accordance with need, but it is also possible to use the method explained below to estimate the necessary compliance parameters e and g and therefore sharply cut the manhours for making the map. Further, if using this method in accordance with need to estimate the compliance parameters e and g , it is possible to reduce the number of maps stored and lighten the control load for map searching.

That is, with this method, for the case of each engine speed NE, only the compliance parameters e_{xn} and g_{xn} when the EGR control valve opening degree STP is a certain single EGR control valve opening degree STPx and

when making the valve timing VT each valve timing VTn and the compliance parameters emx and gmx when the valve timing VT is a certain single valve timing VTx and when making the EGR control valve opening degree STP each EGR control valve opening degree STPm are found and these are used to estimate compliance parameters emn and gmn at the time of any other EGR control valve opening degree STPm and any other valve timing VTn. This method utilizes the fact that when the engine speed NE is constant, the amount of the EGR gas sucked into the cylinder is substantially determined by the EGR control valve opening degree STP and downstream side intake pipe pressure Pm.

Below, this will be explained more specifically. For example, when the engine speed NE is NE1, if the compliance parameters when the EGR control valve opening degree STP is the closed state STP0 and the valve timing VT is the reference timing VT0 (that is, advance =0) are designated as e00, g00, the cylinder intake air flow mc00 at that time can be expressed by the following equation (28).

$$mc00 = e00 \cdot Pm + g00 \quad (28)$$

Similarly, if the compliance parameters when the EGR control valve opening degree STP is STP1 and the valve timing VT is the reference timing VT0 (that is, advance=0) are designated as e10, g10, the cylinder intake air flow mc10 at that time can be expressed by the following equation (29).

$$mc10 = e10 \cdot Pm + g10 \quad (29)$$

Further, from these equation (28) and equation (29), the flow mcegr10 of the EGR gas flowing into the cylinder (hereinafter referred to as "cylinder intake EGR flow") when the EGR control valve opening degree STP is STP1 and the valve timing VT is the reference timing VT0 (that is, advance =0) can be expressed by the following equation (30). Here E and G are coefficients expressing the calculated values of the corresponding compliance parameters.

$$\begin{aligned} mcegr10 &= mc00 - mc10 & (30) \\ &= (e00 - e10) \cdot P_m + (g00 - g10) = E \cdot P_m + G \end{aligned}$$

If illustrating these equation (28) to equation (30), for example, the result becomes FIG. 12. In the example of FIG. 12, the compliance parameters $e10$ and $g10$ are assumed to take different values when the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m is the predetermined pressure P_{m1} or more and when it is less than the predetermined pressure P_{m1} . As a result, the coefficients E and G are assumed to take different values when the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m is the predetermined pressure P_{m1} or more and when it is less than the predetermined pressure P_{m1} . Further, in this example, when the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m is less than the predetermined pressure P_{m1} , the compliance parameters $e00$ and $e10$ are assumed to be substantially equal.

Further, in the same way as equation (28) and equation (29), when the engine speed NE is $NE1$, if the compliance parameters when the EGR control valve opening degree STP is the closed state $STP0$ and the valve timing VT is $VT1$ are designated as $e01$, $g01$, the cylinder intake air flow $mc01$ at that time can be expressed by the following equation (31).

$$mc01 = e01 \cdot P_m + g01 \quad (31)$$

Further, here, when the engine speed NE is constant, the amount of the EGR gas taken into the cylinder is substantially determined by the EGR control valve opening degree STP and the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m . If considering this, the cylinder intake EGR flow $mcegr11$ when the EGR control valve opening degree STP is $STP1$ and the valve timing VT is $VT1$ is substantially equal to the above $mcegr10$ and can be expressed by the above equation (30).

Further, from this, the cylinder intake air flow $mc11$ when the EGR control valve opening degree STP is $STP1$ and the valve timing VT is $VT1$ can be expressed as

in the following equation (32) from equation (30) and equation (31).

$$\begin{aligned} mc11 &= (e01 - e00 + e10) \cdot P_m + (g01 - g00 + g10) \\ &= (e01 - E) \cdot P_m + (g01 - G) \end{aligned} \quad (32)$$

That is, the compliance parameters $e11$ and $g11$ when the EGR control valve opening degree STP is STP1 and the valve timing VT is VT1 are expressed as in the following equation (33). That is, the compliance parameters $e11$ and $g11$ when the EGR control valve opening degree STP is STP1 and the valve timing VT is VT1 can be estimated from the compliance parameters $e00$ and $g00$ when the EGR control valve opening degree STP is STP0 and the valve timing VT is VT0, the compliance parameters $e10$ and $g10$ when the EGR control valve opening degree STP is STP1 and the valve timing VT is VT0, and the compliance parameters $e01$ and $g01$ when the EGR control valve opening degree STP is STP0 and the valve timing VT is VT1.

$$\left. \begin{aligned} e11 &= e01 - e00 + e10 \\ g11 &= g01 - g00 + g10 \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (33)$$

These equation (30), equation (31), and equation (32), if illustrated, becomes as shown for example in FIG. 13. In the example of FIG. 13, the compliance parameters $e01$ and $g01$ are assumed to take different values when the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m is the predetermined pressure P_{m2} or more and when it is less than the predetermined pressure P_{m2} .

Note that, above, to simplify the explanation, the explanation was given of the case of estimating the unknown compliance parameters $e11$ and $g11$ based on the case where the EGR control valve opening degree STP was in the closed state STP0, but the present invention is not limited to this. However, when the EGR control valve opening degree STP is in the closed state STP0, compared with other cases, it is possible to find the compliance parameters e and g more precisely, so by using the case

where the EGR control valve opening degree STP is the closed state STP0 as the standard, it becomes possible as a result to precisely estimate the unknown compliance parameters e_{11} and g_{11} .

5 Further, as clear from the above explanation, according to this method, if finding the compliance parameters e_{xn} and g_{xn} when the EGR control valve opening degree STP is a certain EGR control valve opening degree STPx and the valve timing VT is each valve timing VTn and
10 compliance parameters e_{mx} and g_{mx} when the valve timing VT is a certain valve timing VTx and the EGR control valve opening degree STP is each EGR control valve opening degree STPm for the case of each engine speed NE, it is possible to use these to estimate the compliance
15 parameters e_{mn} and g_{mn} at the time of any other EGR control valve opening degree STPm and any valve timing VTn. Further, from this, it is possible to greatly reduce the manhours for map making.

 However, as in the case shown in FIG. 13, when both
20 the cylinder intake EGR flow m_{cegr10} and the cylinder intake air flow m_{c01} are shown by two lines connected by connection points, the cylinder intake air flow m_{c11} estimated based on these becomes shown by three lines connected by two connection points. If the cylinder
25 intake air flow is shown by three lines in this way, compared with when shown by two lines, the processing for calculation when finding the intersecting point with the curve etc. showing the throttle valve passage air flow m_t for finding the P_{mta} and/or m_{cta} becomes extremely
30 troublesome.

 Therefore, to lighten the control load, it is also possible to approximate the three lines showing the cylinder intake air flow by two lines by the method explained below. That is, this method approximates the
35 three lines expressing the estimated cylinder intake air flow m_{c11} by two lines using as a reference point, of the two connection points connecting them, the connection

point RP with the same P_m coordinate as the connection point of the two lines expressing the cylinder intake air flow $mc01$ forming the basis for the estimation. That is, an equation expressing the two approximated lines

5 connected by the connection point RP is found. What is expressed by these two lines is the approximated cylinder intake air flow $mc'11$ approximating the cylinder intake air flow $mc11$. Below, this will be explained more specifically with reference to FIG. 14 and FIG. 15.

10 As shown in FIG. 14 and FIG. 15, when the cylinder intake EGR flow $mcegr10$ is shown by two lines connected by a connection point, in the equation (30), the coefficients E and G take different values when the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m is the

15 predetermined pressure P_{m1} or more and when it is less than the predetermined pressure P_{m1} . In this case, if the cylinder intake EGR flow $mcegr10$ when the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m is less than the predetermined pressure P_{m1} is $mcegrl10$, the coefficients E and G when

20 the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m is less than the predetermined pressure P_{m1} are E_l and G_l , the cylinder intake EGR flow $mcegr10$ when the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m is the predetermined pressure P_{m1} or more is $mcegrh10$, and the coefficients E and G when

25 the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m is the predetermined pressure P_{m1} or more are E_h and G_h , the equation (30) can be expressed as in the following equation (34).

30
$$\left. \begin{aligned} mcegrl10 &= E_l \cdot P_m + G_l, & P_m < P_{m1} \\ mcegrh10 &= E_h \cdot P_m + G_h, & P_m \geq P_{m1} \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (34)$$

Similarly, as shown in FIG. 14 and FIG. 15, when the cylinder intake air flow $mc01$ is shown by two lines connected by a connection point, the compliance

35 parameters $e01$ and $g01$ in the equation (31) take different values when the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m is a predetermined pressure P_{m2} or more and

when it is less than a predetermined pressure P_{m2} . In this case, if the cylinder intake air flow mc_{01} when the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m is less than the predetermined pressure P_{m2} is mc_{l10} , the compliance parameters e_{01} and g_{01} when the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m is less than the predetermined pressure P_{m2} are e_{l01} and g_{l01} , the cylinder intake air flow mc_{01} when the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m is the predetermined pressure P_{m2} or more is mch_{01} , and the compliance parameters e_{01} and g_{01} when the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m is the predetermined pressure P_{m2} or more are eh_{01} and gh_{01} , the equation (31) can be expressed by the following equation (35):

$$\left. \begin{aligned} mc_{l01} &= e_{l01} \cdot P_m + g_{l01}, & P_m < P_{m2} \\ mch_{01} &= eh_{01} \cdot P_m + gh_{01}, & P_m \geq P_{m2} \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (35)$$

Further, with this method, the cylinder intake air flow mc_{l1} is approximated by a line of the slant (e_{l01} - E_l) when the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m is less than a predetermined pressure P_{m2} and is approximated by a line of the slant (eh_{01} - E_h) when the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m is the predetermined pressure P_{m2} or more. Further, these two approximated lines are connected by the connection point RP.

The equation expressing this approximated line, that is, the equation expressing the approximated cylinder intake air flow mc'_{l1} approximating the cylinder intake air flow mc_{l1} , becomes a different equation when the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m is the predetermined pressure P_{m2} or more and when it is less than the predetermined pressure P_{m2} and is used selectively depending on the relative magnitude of the predetermined pressures P_{m1} and P_{m2} .

The equation expressing the approximated cylinder intake air flow mc'_{l1} found by this method, when $P_{m1} > P_{m2}$ as shown in FIG. 14, can be expressed by the following

equation (36) when the approximated cylinder intake air flow mc'_{l11} when the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m is less than the predetermined pressure P_{m2} is mc'_{l11} and the approximated cylinder intake air flow mc'_{l11} when the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m is the predetermined pressure P_{m2} or more is mc'_{h11} :

$$\left. \begin{aligned} mc'_{l11} &= (e_{l01} - E_l) \cdot P_m + (g_{l01} - G_l) \\ &= e_{pl11} \cdot P_m + g_{pl11}, \quad P_m < P_{m2} \\ mc'_{h11} &= (e_{h01} - E_h) \cdot P_m + (E_h - E_l) \cdot P_{m2} + (g_{h01} - G_l) \\ &= (e_{h01} - E_h) \cdot P_m + \frac{(E_h - E_l)(g_{h01} - g_{l01})}{e_{l01} - e_{h01}} + (g_{h01} - G_l) \\ &= e_{ph11} \cdot P_m + g_{ph11}, \quad P_m \geq P_{m2} \end{aligned} \right\} (36)$$

Here, e_{pl11} , g_{pl11} , e_{ph11} , and g_{ph11} are coefficients obtained by rewriting the corresponding parts in the equations and are approximated compliance parameters. Further, in this case, the coordinates of the connection point RP in FIG. 14 can be expressed using the predetermined pressure P_{m2} as $(P_{m2}, (e_{h01} - E_l) \cdot P_{m2} + (g_{h01} - G_l))$.

On the other hand, as shown in FIG. 15, when $P_{m1} < P_{m2}$, the equation expressing the approximated cylinder intake air flow mc'_{l11} can be expressed by the following equation (37).

$$\left. \begin{aligned} mc'_{l11} &= (e_{l01} - E_l) \cdot P_m + (e_{h01} - e_{l01} + E_l - E_h) P_{m2} + (g_{h01} - G_h) \\ &= (e_{l01} - E_l) \cdot P_m + \frac{(E_{h01} - e_{l01} + E_l - E_h)(g_{h01} - g_{l01})}{e_{l01} - e_{h01}} + (g_{h01} - G_h) \\ &= e_{plb11} \cdot P_m + g_{plb11}, \quad P_m < P_{m2} \\ mc'_{h11} &= (e_{h01} - E_h) \cdot P_m + (g_{h01} - G_h) \\ &= e_{phb11} \cdot P_m + g_{phb11}, \quad P_m \geq P_{m2} \end{aligned} \right\} (37)$$

Here, e_{plb11} , g_{plb11} , e_{phb11} , and g_{phb11} are coefficients obtained by rewriting the corresponding parts of the equations and are approximated compliance parameters. Further, in this case, the coordinates of the connection point RP in FIG. 15 can be expressed using the predetermined pressure P_{m2} as $(P_{m2}, (e_{l01} - E_h) \cdot P_{m2} + (g_{l01} - G_h))$.

Gh)).

Further, as clear from FIG. 14 and FIG. 15, when using this method to find the approximated cylinder intake air flow mc'_{11} , when $P_{m1} > P_{m2}$, if the downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m is less than the predetermined pressure P_{m2} , the approximated cylinder intake air flow mc'_{11} matches with the cylinder intake air flow mc_{11} , while when $P_{m1} < P_{m2}$, if downstream side intake pipe pressure P_m is the predetermined pressure P_{m2} or more, the approximated cylinder intake air flow mc'_{11} matches with the cylinder intake air flow mc_{11} . Note that, when $P_{m1} = P_{m2}$, as the cylinder intake air flow mc_{11} is originally shown by two lines, it is not necessary to use the above-mentioned method to find the approximated cylinder intake air flow mc'_{11} .

Further, it is learned that even if using the method explained above to find the approximated cylinder intake air flow mc'_{11} and using this as the basis to find the P_{mta} or m_{cta} , the effect on the calculation precision is relatively small. This is because when the engine speed NE is from the low speed to medium speed, the tendency is that $P_{m1} \cong P_{m2}$, while when the engine speed NE is the high speed, the tendency is that $E_l \cong E_h$.

Note that, only naturally, even in the case of EGR explained later, it is possible to linearly approximate the curve showing the throttle valve passage air flow mt by any one of the methods explained above to find the P_{mta} or m_{cta} .

Further, in the configuration shown in FIG. 11, the variable valve timing mechanism 23 was provided only at the intake valve 6 side, but the present invention is not limited to this. That is, for example, a variable valve timing mechanism may also be provided at only the exhaust valve 8 side or may be provided at both of the intake valve 6 side and the exhaust valve 8 side.

Further, the configuration shown in FIG. 11 has a variable valve timing mechanism 23 as an example of a

variable intake apparatus, but the present invention can also be applied to cases of other variable intake apparatuses, for example swirl control valves. That is, for example, for estimation of the compliance parameters \underline{e} and \underline{g} of equation (27), in the same way as the above-mentioned method, it is possible to estimate compliance parameters e_{mn} and g_{mn} at the time of any EGR control valve opening degree STP_m and any swirl control valve state SC_n , for each engine speed NE , from the compliance parameters e_{yn} and g_{yn} when the EGR control valve opening degree STP is a certain EGR control valve opening degree STP_y and the swirl control valve is each state SC_n and the compliance parameters e_{my} and g_{my} when the swirl control valve is a certain state SC_y and the EGR control valve opening degree STP is each EGR control valve opening degree STP_m .

Note that the present invention was explained in detail based on specific embodiments, but a person skilled in the art could make various modifications, corrections, etc. without departing from the claims and concept of the present invention.